

REMARKS

In the February 16, 2010 Office Action, all of the claims stand rejected in view of prior art. No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the February 16, 2010 Office Action, Applicant has amended claim 2 and cancelled claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 14 as indicated above. Thus, claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 are pending, with claim 2 being the only independent claim. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of above amendments and the following comments.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-134716 (Miyawaki et al.). In response, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 14, amended claim 2 to place it in independent form, and amended claim 2 to more clearly define the present invention over the prior art of record.

In particular, independent claim 2 now requires,

a stator core having a plurality of teeth;

a plurality of windings with a part of each of the windings being wound around the teeth of the stator core to form a tooth winding portion and a lead-out wire extending from a corresponding one of the tooth winding portions; and

an insulator including a plurality of lead-out guide portions with the lead-out wires being drawn out from the corresponding one of the tooth winding portions of the windings,

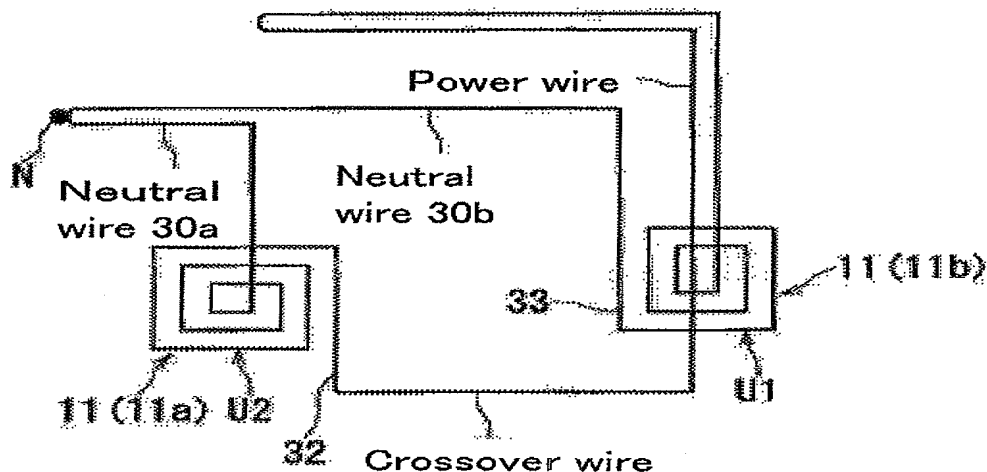
the lead-out guide portions being disposed on a radially outward side of respective slots, each respective slot being defined between two adjacent teeth of the stator core, and each lead-out guide portion being offset toward an adjacent tooth from a center line of the respective slot,

each of the windings being connected to a neutral wire, with the tooth winding portions including a first tooth winding portion that follows the neutral wire and is wound about a first tooth of the teeth, and a second tooth winding portion that is wound about a second tooth of the teeth that is radially opposed to the first tooth with one end connected to the neutral wire,

each of the windings further including a crossover wire, and a power wire with the crossover wire extending from the first tooth winding portion toward the second tooth winding portion and with the power wire connecting the crossover wire to the second tooth winding portion, such that a first lead-out portion is formed between the first tooth winding portion and the second tooth winding portion and a second lead-out portion is formed between the second tooth winding portion and the neutral wire, and the first and second lead-out portions serve as the lead-out wires of the first and second tooth winding portions,

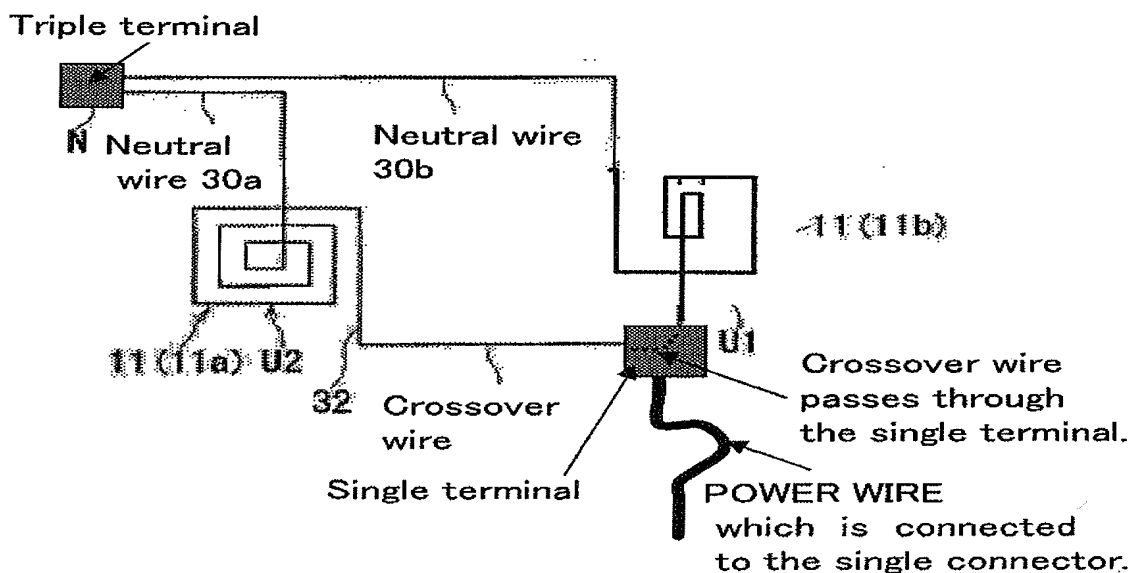
the neutral wire, the first tooth winding portion, the crossover wire, the power wire, the second tooth winding portion of each winding defining a seamless, continuous line.

See Figure 5 of the instant application reproduced below with the power wire, crossover wire and neutral wires labeled for convenience.



Clearly, this structure set forth in independent claim 2 as now amended is *not* disclosed or suggested by the Miyawaki et al. publication or any other prior art of record. In the Miyawaki et al. publication, the power wire (the term “power line” is used in the English Abstract of the Miyawaki et al. publication) does not connect the crossover wire to the second

tooth winding portion. Rather, the crossover wire passes through a single terminal, and the power wire is connected to the single terminal. The drawing below shows the Miyawaki publication's winding by modifying the drawing showing the winding of the present invention (i.e., the windings of the Miyawaki publication's in the same format as the present invention Figure 5).



In other words, even though the power wire is omitted in the figures of the Miyawaki publication, it is apparent from the above drawings that in the Miyawaki publication the crossover wire extends from the first tooth winding portion to the second tooth winding portion via a single terminal, and that the power wire is connected to the single connector (see the English abstract of the Miyawaki publication). Note that the single terminal 14a (14b, 14c) of the Miyawaki publication, to which the power wire is connected, is provided on an axial end face of an insulator 14, as shown in figure 1 of the Miyawaki reference. Thus, the Miyawaki publication cannot teach or suggest the claimed feature "the power wire connecting the crossover wire to the second tooth winding portion" or the neutral wire, the first tooth winding portion, the crossover wire, the power wire, the second tooth winding portion of each winding defining a seamless, continuous line, as now required by independent claim 2.

It is well settled under U.S. patent law that for a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must disclose each and every element of the claim within the reference. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2, as now amended, is not anticipated by the prior art of record. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection of independent claim 2 is respectfully requested.

Moreover, Applicant believes that dependent claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 are also allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from independent claim 2, and therefore are allowable for the reasons stated above. Also, the dependent claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 are further allowable because they include additional limitations, which in combination with the limitations of independent claim 2, are not disclosed or suggested in the prior art. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection of dependent claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 is also respectfully requested.

Prior Art Citation

In the Office Action, additional prior art references were made of record. Applicant believes that these references do not render the claimed invention obvious.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 16 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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